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BERNHARDT MAY
PLAY VAUDEVILLE

The closing of the Mme. Bernhardt road tour at Montreal this week may result in Bernhardt again taking up a vaudeville tour.

Early in the week it looked as though negotiations then being conducted between Bernhardt's manager, W. F. Connor, and Harry Weber (for vaudeville) would end successfully. Wednesday it was reported Mr. Weber had retired from further activity, but that the negotiations were still on, with a probability Bernhardt would reopen at the Palace, New York, Dec. 17, or shortly after.

When last playing in vaudeville over here on the Orpheum circuit Bernhardt received \$500 a performance, or \$7,000 weekly in a city of 14 performances. It is said her proposed vaudeville tour will be at around \$5,000 weekly, with about 10

weeks given her at this figure, if no return engagements are played. Mr. Weber got into communication with Mr. Connor some time ago regarding Bernhardt and vaudeville. His retirement this week from further interest was said to have been through Mme. Bernhardt, if appearing in vaudeville, being regarded for bookings purposes as a "foreign act."

Members of the Smith College, of Northampton, Mass., relief unit in France are assisting inhabitants of the country by selling necessities at less than cost.

Joseph Caillaux, former premier of France, is accused under four penal code laws which condemn anyone guilty to die.

Shortly after the fire which resulted in the explosion of the T N T shells at the Bethlehem Steel Co. at Wilmington, Del., two foreigners were arrested.

STATE OPENS CASE AGAINST COLORED MAN

Trial of William Roberts of Stratford for the murder of his wife, Mary Roberts, July 4 last, was commenced in the superior court yesterday before Judge Gardiner Greene and a jury. All of the session of court yesterday was taken up in securing a jury, 62 talesmen having been examined before 12 were selected to try the case. Many were excused because they were opposed to capital punishment.

Roberts is accused of slaying his wife's throat with a razor the morning of July 4 in a path between Linden and Stratford avenues, in Stratford, when he found her in company with another man. All the parties to the case are colored.

Coroner John J. Phelan was the first witness today, and identified photographs of the scene of the crime, and some exhibits in the case, including a knife with a broken blade.

William B. Nichols, of Stratford, told of turning the knife over to the coroner, and Fred B. Manchester told of finding it covered with blood near the scene of the crime a short time after the killing occurred.

BOY SCOUTS TO ASSIST LADIES

All Scouts are requested to report to the various division headquarters Saturday morning at 8 as per following schedule:

West Side at St. John's Parish House—Troops 4, 5, 18, 20, 26 and 28. Troops will report to Mrs. Weeks and Mrs. Hawley.

South End headquarters at Warner's Institute in charge of Mr. Dudley Morris—Troops 10, 12, 27, 39, 30 and 31.

East Side headquarters at Y. W. C. A. of Beach street, in charge of Mrs. Dr. Centola—Troops 3, 9, 16, 23, 24 and 25.

Troop No. 11 who would naturally belong to this division will report for duty at the Lyric theatre while the pictures are being shown for the children from 10:15 to 12 at noon.

Central Division headquarters at the First Methodist church in charge of Miss Gros-Claude—Troops 1, 2, 6, 8, 17, 19 and 21.

Six of these boys will be chosen for special duty at the railroad station and should report not later than 7:45 a. m. to Mrs. Dr. Tyle.

North End headquarters at Olive church in charge of Miss Jansen—Troops 13, 14, 15 and 22.

We hope to have two boys from Troops 10, 1 and 21 at the railroad station at 7:45.

MOTHERS, DO THIS—

When the Children Cough, Rub
Musterole on Throats
and Chests

No telling how soon the symptoms may develop into croup, or worse. And then when you're glad you have a jar of Musterole at hand to give prompt, sure relief. It does not blister.

As first aid and a certain remedy, Musterole is excellent. Thousands of mothers know it. You should keep a jar in the house, ready for instant use.

It is the remedy for adults, too. Relieves sore throat, bronchitis, tonsillitis, croup, stiff neck, asthma, neuralgia, headache, congestion, pleurisy, rheumatism, lumbago, pains and aches of back, joints, sprains, sore muscles, chilblains, frost-bitten feet and colds of the chest (it often prevents pneumonia).

30c and 60c jars; hospital size \$2.50.



REDDING

Redding, Dec. 13.—The action of the Gilbert & Bennett Co. of Georgetown increasing their capital stock to \$2,000,000 from \$1,000,000 was taken at a special meeting of the company held towards the latter part of last month. In effect the increase is the declaration of a 100 per cent. stock dividend, the par value of the shares being raised to \$100 from \$50. Surplus accumulations extending over a number of years afforded the basis for the doubling process which, it is conjectured, was prompted by the special war tax lately imposed on corporations. The entire million surplus had been gained previous to Jan. 1, 1915, all the net earnings of the last two years having been distributed to the stockholders in dividends. These returns for 1916 were between 30 and 40 per cent. and during the present year have amounted to 50 per cent. Previously the regular dividend rate was 12 per cent. with an occasional extra distribution.

While Miss Belle Sanford was working over the cooking range in the basement of her home at the Ridge on Tuesday in an endeavor to thaw out the frozen water tank attached to the stove the barking of the dog outside and footsteps on the porch gave warning of the arrival of a visitor. She hurried upstairs to meet the visitor and her departure at that moment proved very fortunate for her as she had just reached the upper floor when the range was blown to pieces by the explosion of the water tank from the force of the steam contained by reason of the frozen circulation pipes. Pieces of metal were in height over six feet. He will now strive to acquire more robustness hurried about the room making the situation a perilous one for any one who might have been within range. The live coals were thrown backward to the oven of the mended stove, thereby obviating the danger of a fire as a consequence of the explosion.

Arrangements are in progress under the general direction of Mrs. Pauline Sanford for a Community Christmas to be held at the Mark Twain library on the evening of Wednesday, Dec. 26. The affair will be in the nature of a pageant with Father Christmas, King Wenceslaus, the Wise Men of the East and Shepherds among the characters personated, all suitably costumed. A huge Yule log will blaze in the fireplace and there will be singing of carols by a children's chorus and of anthems by a adult chorus. Rehearsals for these are to be held at the rectory on the Ridge under the leadership of Mrs. H. S. Barnes and at the Center in charge of Mrs. Pauline Sanford. Everyone who can sing is requested to participate in these rehearsals as there will be no personal invitations extended and the aid of all volunteers to admission. No admission fee for the entertainment at the library is to be charged and the general public is invited to attend.

The blizzard conditions last Saturday afternoon made the trip of the local Home Guard to Norwalk anything but a pleasure jaunt. They first went to Danbury in buses and thence by special train to Norwalk along with the Danbury, Bethel, Brookfield and Newtown Guardsmen. Fortunately for the Redding boys they availed themselves of the offer of the Danbury armory of cape overcoats left over from the Spanish war and therefore suffered less from the elements than did the Danbury Guardsmen who rejected the opportunity of extra clothing protection. Arriving at Norwalk the battalion, with the visiting company from Camp Deven, were led over a march of about 10 miles in the driving storm. The discomforts suffered by all hands at the camp sham battle were light in comparison with Saturday's experience.

A good sized audience greatly enjoyed the living war works exhibited at the Center Methodist church last Friday evening. Lew Warner was Mr. Jarley, Charles Hyde the Welsh Dwarf and other characters were personated by Charles and Augustus Berne, Maude Bodie, Winifred Platt, Mrs. Milo Osborn, Fred Wood, Helen Bodie, Esther Ostling and Miss Allen.

Announcement has been made of the engagement of Everett Brinckerhoff of New York and Miss Margaret Boughton, whose family has a summer residence at Redding Center. The prospective bride is daughter of the late Herbert Boughton, who was treasurer of the Bush Terminal Co. Mr. Brinckerhoff is a graduate of the Pulatburg training camp and having been commissioned a Lieutenant, will sail in a few weeks for duty in France.

Another disappointment has come to Dayton Sanford in his effort to get into service with the regular army. Rejected last summer for underweight he put on more flesh and on a recent trial was accepted after examination at Bridgeport. Reporting for duty last week at Fort Slocum he was subjected to another examination and turned down as not being sufficiently robust. In years he is 18 and preparatory for another try to break into the service.

Henry J. Forman, who left his home here in September to visit Russia on a writing commission from Collier's Weekly, is returning with the purpose of his trip unaccomplished by reason of the refusal of the Japanese government to endorse his passports for the continuance of his journey towards its objective. The cause of the hold-up is not known. Mr. Forman was due to arrive at Vancouver, British Columbia, on Tuesday.

The Catholic church of Georgetown was raised to service flag being seven stars on Sunday afternoon next with appropriate exercises beginning at 3 o'clock. The program comprises two addresses, one by Rev. Father Shortelle, the church's pastor, whose oratorical ability is well known, and the other by Father Burns, an eloquent young priest of West Norwalk. The three Jones brothers, who are well known here as nephews of the late Jeannette Gilder and who have a summer place at Pine Tree Corner, sailed for France this week on a business trip relating to the writing of government insurances for soldiers at the front.

De Witt C. Weld, one of the Pleasant Valley summer colony, has received a commission as lieutenant colonel in the 16th artillery of the Regular service. He has previously been an officer of lesser rank in one of the New York cavalry commands.

The Center Congregational and the Center Methodist churches will unite in a Christmas service to be held at the Center Methodist on the evening of Sunday, Dec. 23.

This town has done so notably well in the matter of Red Cross work and

Liberty bond and Y. M. C. A. subscriptions that it may be relied upon to make a good showing in its absorption of the baby government obligations known as Thrift stamps. These are now on sale at each of the town's four post-offices and also by the rural mail carriers. You pay \$4.12 for a stamp, either outright or by installments, and three years hence can cash it in at \$5, which means an attractive interest increment. Miss E. S. Sanford, postmistress at the Center, is doing missionary work among the school children to stimulate interest in the sale of these stamps.

Martin Doherty and Mrs. Peter Rayburn of the West Side are laid up with injuries received by falling on the ice. The latter was the more seriously hurt and is under a doctor's care.

Rev. Raymond Cunningham is being visited by his mother and his brother Harold. They will remain about two weeks.

The arrest in New York of Otto Merkel for alleged misdeeds in connection with criminal pro-German activities recalls the fact that he was one of the speakers in the public discussion regarding the war and its causes held at the Sanford school in the autumn of 1914. He then impressed his hearers as a remarkably smooth and insinuating talker and as a man of culture as well as Kultur.

Emil Nardine of West Redding was home over Sunday from Camp Sparaburg.

Samuel Osborn, another of the local boys at the camp, has been assigned to the Remount division.

Mr. Burdett of Mt. Vernon has moved to the place in Lonsdale rented from the Misses Phil and Newell, and will there engage in the raising of fancy poultry.

Albert Bigelow Paine has offered to contribute the chassis of his car to the Mark Twain ambulance corps which is being organized in C. S. to go to France in the spring to serve as its driver. He says he thinks he can make good on the job despite his 55 years.

The Men's club will meet this (Thursday) evening with J. B. Sanford to hear an address on war topics by Rev. Mr. Coburn of Danbury.

Start Drive For Red Cross Members

"Wanted, volunteers!"

This isn't a call from the United States army but from the Red Cross army, in this case, from General Emily Russell, who is in charge for the Twelfth district in the forthcoming membership drive, and wants volunteer workers to report to her at once at her house, 294 West avenue, or by telephone, Barnum 3523-2. "The Twelfth district is a big one to cover," declared Mrs. Russell today, "and every patriotic woman should take a hand in this great work."

"As the final meeting before the



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campaign takes place Friday night, I wish to hear from all possible volunteers today and tomorrow."

Earth tremors were felt at Idaho Falls, Idaho. No damage was done.

J. J. Stream resigned as vice president of the Chicago Board of Trade.

Craig Biddle, Philadelphia millionaire, enlisted as a private in the army.

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